

## CLAIMS

### **What is Claimed is:**

1. An intimate blend of staple fibers, comprising: 10 to 75 parts by weight of at least one aramid staple fiber, 15 to 80 parts by weight of at least one modacrylic staple fiber, and 5 to 30 parts by weight of at least one polyamide staple fiber.
2. The intimate blend of claim 1, wherein the at least one modacrylic staple fiber further comprises an antimony compound.
3. The intimate blend of claim 1, wherein there are 20 to 40 parts by weight of the at least one aramid staple fiber, 50 to 80 parts by weight of the at least one modacrylic staple fiber, and 15 to 20 parts by weight of the at least one polyamide staple fiber.
4. The intimate blend of claim 1, wherein the at least one aramid staple fiber is selected from the group consisting of para-aramid fibers, meta-aramid fibers, and mixtures thereof.
5. The intimate blend of claim 3, wherein the at least one aramid staple fiber is selected from the group consisting of para-aramid fibers, meta-aramid fibers, and mixtures thereof.

6. The intimate blend of claim 1, wherein the at least one aramid staple fiber is poly(metaphenylene isophthalamide) and the at least one modacrylic fiber is a copolymer of acrylonitrile and vinylidene chloride.

5 7. The intimate blend of claim 3, wherein the at least one aramid staple fiber is poly(metaphenylene isophthalamide) and the at least one modacrylic fiber is a copolymer of acrylonitrile and vinylidene chloride.

8. A yarn comprising the intimate blend of claim 1.

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9. A flame retardant fabric comprising the yarn of claim 8.

10. The flame retardant fabric of claim 9, wherein the flame retardant fabric has a basis weight of from 4 to 15 ounces per square yard.

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11. A flame retardant article of clothing comprising the flame retardant fabric of claim 10.

12. The flame retardant fabric of claim 9, wherein the flame  
20 retardant fabric has a basis weight of from 5.5 to 11 ounces per square yard.

13. A flame retardant article of clothing comprising the flame retardant fabric of claim 12.

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14. A yarn comprising the intimate blend of claim 6.

15. A flame retardant fabric comprising the yarn of claim 14.

5            16. The flame retardant fabric of claim 15, wherein the flame retardant fabric has a basis weight of from 4 to 15 ounces per square yard.

17. A flame retardant article of clothing comprising the flame retardant fabric of claim 16.

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18. The flame retardant fabric of claim 15, wherein the flame retardant fabric has a basis weight of from 5.5 to 11 ounces per square yard.

15            19. A flame retardant article of clothing comprising the flame retardant fabric of claim 18.